The Virginia Journal AND ALEXANDRIA ADVERTISER.

HUC UNDIQUE GAZA CONGERITUR VIR.

(VOL. I.) THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1784. (No. 6)

LONDON, *November* 20.

Extracts from Mr. FOX's SPEECH, in the House of Commons, on Tuesday last.

THE deplorable situation of the East-India Company was well known, and universally admitted: their extreme distress, and the embarrassed state of their affairs, not only called for the aid of Government, but required its immediate assistance, as the only possible means of averting and preventing the final and complete destruction of the Company's interests, and with them, of materially injuring, if not entirely ruining, the interests of the nation, as far as they were connected with our territorial acquisitions in India.——Mr. Fox stated, that by a certain Act of Parliament, which he mentioned, the Company were bound down to accept no more bills drawn upon them from India, than amounted to 300,000 l. without the express consent of the Lords of his Majesty's Treasury. This condition he understood to have been made with the intent, that if bills to the amount of a trifling excess over and above the 300,000 l. should happen to be drawn upon the Company from their settlements, and it should appear to the Lords of the Treasury that such bills were proper to be paid, a power of making the necessary provision for them should be lodged somewhere. So far, however, from the excess being trifling, the bills that had been drawn upon the Company from Bengal, over and above the 300,000 l. amounted to nearly two millions of money: his Majesty's Lords of the Treasury had therefore, and he doubted not the House would be of opinion that in so doing they had done no more than their duty, refused to give their consent to the acceptance of these bills. Mr. Fox said farther, that when the Lords of the Treasury consented to exercise the discretion vested in them by the Act he had alluded to, let the degree in which it was exercised be what it might, he considered them as pledging the public faith for the payment of the bills the acceptance of which they permitted, and therefore it behoved them to act with infinite circumspection and prudence. In the present case, the sum was extremely large: it was nevertheless obvious that the credit of the Company was a matter of a very delicate nature. If they were not assisted, they must unavoidably be ruined; and the ruin of a body of merchants, so extensive in their concerns, and so important in the eyes of all Europe, as the English East-India Company, must necessarily give the national credit a very great shock indeed. On the other hand, to give them the requisite assistance, without first examining their affairs, and setting them to rights, and without forming and enforcing a new system of management for the future, better calculated to promote their prosperity, and relieve them from the bankrupt condition in which they at present unquestionably stood, would be only to throw away the public money, and for that House to proceed to take the last shilling out of the pockets of their constituents, to lend it to those whose notorious want of ability to manage their affairs had already brought them to the brink of destruction, and afforded but little ground for expectation of better care for the time to come. It might naturally be supposed, therefore, that he did not think for a moment of adopting the easy alternative of lending them the money they wanted, and thus getting rid of the difficulty for the present. The nature of the case required a very different mode of proceeding. In order to shew the real situation of the Company's affairs, Mr. Fox recapitulated the various articles of the debt of one kind or other that the Company owed, which he stated in the whole to amount to eleven millions three hundred thousand pounds; and against it he placed the value of the property of the Company of various kinds here and in India, which he called three millions three hundred thousand pounds, and declared that, every thing deducted, the Company owed at this time eight milions of money.——The plan of government that had occurred to the learned Lord who brought in the bill last year upon the subject of a new system, was to give more power to the government in India, indeed to invest it with absolute power. His system was directly the reverse; he meant to propose to lodge the government chiefly at home, and thought too much power had lately been trusted in India: he designed therefore to propose to place the responsibility on seven Commissioners, to act here as the Council of Administration for India; these seven Comissioners to be assisted with a subordinate Board of eight additional Comissioners, to manage the commercial concerns of the Company, to conduct their shipping, and superintend all the variety of business appertaining to the commercial conduct of the Company's affairs; but the latter eight Commissioners to act entirely under the direction, and be subject to the controul, of the former seven. This, Mr. Fox said, was the grand outline of his system; he would not enter into a minute detail of it farther at present, but would only say, he meant to leave a blank in the bill he should move for leave to bring in, for the names of the Commissioners, which should be balloted for by that House; and he designed another blank, to give the House a power of removing any one Commissioner or more by address or otherwise; he said it was likewise his intention to leave a third blank, for the period of the operation of the bill, which might be for a short term of years, either five or three. His wish would be to take the shortest time that could be supposed sufficient to do any good in, or give the experiment fair trial.——It was, Mr. Fox said, the first duty of governors to make the governed as happy and as secure in their properties as possible. This was, he trusted, the wish of every Englishman, and could not but be the wish of a British House of Commons; therefore, although it was impossible exactly to apply the glorious and free constitution of this country to our possessions in India, it was not only the indispensable duty of the House, but it was within their power to communicate the spirit of our laws, which was, in fact, the essence of our constitution, to our Indian subjects, to rescue them from rapine and plunder, and to put them in a state of perfect peace, happiness and security. This would be one grand aim of his bills, and for support in affecting such a purpose, he relied with confidence on the zeal, the liberality, and the justice of the two Houses of Parliament. [*An universal murmur of applause.*]—The influence of the Crown, they had been used to say, was too great. He thanked God it had been considerably diminished; but the influence of the Crown, in its most enormous and alarming state, was nothing, compared to the boundless patronage of the East-India government, if the latter was to be used in influence of that House. The country was lost indeed, lost beyond all hope or possibility of recovery, if the boundless patronage of the East was to be employed to prevent Government from making a reform, called for in the loudest manner, and urged onwards by the most immediate and most pressing necessity. He knew that the task he that day set himself was extremely arduous and difficult: he knew that it had considerable risk in it: but when he took upon him an office of responsibility, he had made up his mind to the situation and danger of it. He had left all thoughts of ease, indolence and safety behind him. He remembred an honourable friend near him [Mr. Burke] had once said, half in jest, half in earnest "that idleness was the best gift that God had bestowed upon man."—But this was not a time for indolence and regard to safety in a Minister. The situation of the country called for vigorous exertion, for new measures, and for some risk; he knew that a Minister who had no consideration but his own safety, might be quiet and safe; the consequence must be, the country would be ruined. How much better was it to venture what the exigency of affairs required! The Minister, it was true, might be ruined, but his country would be saved. The one consideration ought to have no weight compared to the other. The Minister who loved ease, or rather who was not determined to exert himself, had no business with red boxes and green bags. His office was for active employ; and if he preferred indulgence to application, he ought to retire to private life, where he might enjoy his leisure without injury to the public. [*A smile from opposition,*]—Mr. Fox took notice of the smile, and said, the subject of a measure adopted by him last session, had then been so repeatedly and so fully discussed, that the gentlemen on the other side must excuse him, if he declined saying any thing more upon the subject. Thus much he would only then say, that it had been thought a matter worth trying, if a junction with those from whom he had long differed, might not be made with safety, after the points upon which they had differed most widely were at an end, and whether they might not act together on new points with honour for the good of the country. That experiment had been tried, and he was happy to say, that the experience of the summer had confirmed him in his expectations; the noble Lord [*North*] and he not having had any one material difference, nor indeed any variety of opinion, farther than that sort of occasional difference which men of honour, determined to act freely, to give their opinions to each other without reserve, and from candid argument to deduce conviction, might warrantably and fairly be supposed to entertain.—On the present occasion he lamented most sincerely the want of the great abilities of the noble Lord to support him in the arduous task of the day; and he more particularly lamented that his loss should be owing to personal illness and infirmity. He was, however, happy to be able to assure that House that he and the noble Lord had consulted together upon the subject; that they perfectly coincided in sentiment and opinion upon it; and he trusted, as the bill would be some time in passing, that he should still have the benefit of the noble Lord's powerful support.

Mr. Fox concluded with moving,

1st. That leave be given to bring in a bill for vesting the affairs of the East-India Company in the hands of certain Commissioners, for the benefit of the Proprietors and the Public.

2d. That leave be given to bring in a bill for the better government of the territorial acquisitions and dependencies in India.

It was then upon motion ordered, that Mr. Secretary Fox, Lord North, Lord John Cavendish, &c. do prepare and bring in the same.

ADDRESS of the HOUSE of LORDS.

"*Most gracious Sovereign,*

"WE your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our most humble thanks for your gracious speech from the throne.

"With the most respectful affection to your royal person and family, we beg leave to offer our sincere congratulations on the birth of another Princess, and the happy recovery of the Queen. Truly sensible of the blessings we enjoy under your Majesty's most auspicious government, we rejoice at every event that can add to your Majesty's domestic happiness.

"We congratulate your Majesty on the success of your endeavours to restore the public tranquility. We return your Majesty our most humble thanks for having ordered the Definitive Treaties with the Courts of France and Spain, and with the United States of America, and the Preliminary Articles ratified with the States General of the United Provinces, to be laid before us; and we assure your Majesty that we learn with the greatest satisfaction that all those powers agree with your Majesty in

your sincere inclinations to keep the calamities of war at a great distance.

"We humbly and thankfully acknowledge your Majesty's royal regard to the general welfare of all your Majesty's dominions, in having called your Parliament together at this early season; and we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that the most diligent attention shall be given by us to those objects which wait our deliberation. The situation of the East-India Company will require our immediate consideration; and we beg your Majesty to be assured that we will use our utmost endeavours to maintain and improve the valuable advantages derived from our India possessions, and to secure the happiness of the native inhabitants of those provinces.

"Animated by your Majesty's example, and by the love of our country, we shall take the earliest advantage of the season of peace to direct our counsels to every thing that can recruit the strength of the nation after so long and so expensive a war; and while we express the grateful sense we entertain of your Majesty's paternal care in recommending the security and increase of the revenue in the manner least burthensome to your people, we shall be happy to co-operate in whatever may be found to be expedient for those salutary purposes, or may tend to counteract those frauds, and to repress that spirit of outrage which has been so alarmingly prevalent.

We humbly entreat your Majesty to be persuaded that our utmost assiduity shall be employed in providing what is called for by the present situation of this country, and that in our labours for that purpose, we shall not only use the utmost caution in regard to whatever the experience of past times has shewn to be beneficial, but shall endeavour, to the extent of our abilities, to make all such benefits permanent.

"It will be our duty to preserve that temper and moderation in our deliberations which your Majesty has been pleased to recommend, and which the importance of their objects will demand; and we shall be anxious not to neglect any opportunity of meriting the good opinion your Majesty has graciously expressed of our unanimous desire to secure and promote the honor of your Majesty's crown, the safety of your dominions, and the prosperity of your people.

His MAJESTY's ANSWER.

"I Thank you for this dutiful and loyal Address. —I receive with pleasure your congratulations on the birth of a Princess, and the recovery of the Queen, as renewed proofs of affection to my person and family. The assurances you give me of your attention to the objects recommended for the welfare of my subjects are highly acceptable; and I regard the unanimity with which they are offered as an earnest of the success which, I trust, will attend your endeavours to establish the honor of my Crown, and the prosperity of my people."

Nov. 23. In the last Edinburgh Evening Courant is the following paragraph:—The Irish are called a warm and manly nation; the Scotch a cool and scheming people; that the Irish act from the impulse of honor; the Scotch from that of interest. Let recent experience determine the truth of this general character of the two. During the late calamities, appeals were made to both nations by the incendiaries of England. The Irish exclaimed, "let us seize on this critical moment of England's distress to bring about our desired revolution." The Scotch with more manliness and honor, declared in general convention, "that though their grievances were many, they would postpone their application for redress, to a period when England was less embarrassed, trusting that they would receive from her justice, what they might extort from her fears."

HOUSE of COMMONS,

WEDNESDAY, *November* 19.

In a Committee of supply, resolved, that 26,000 men, including marines, be employed for sea service for 1784.

That 4 l. per man per month be allowed for maintaining the said men, including the ordnance for sea service. To be reported to-morrow.

Admiral Pigot, in conformity to his promised motion, brought in the bill for regulating the number of ships, and seamen to be employed next year. He spoke very deliberately; and so indistinctly as not to be well heard. He seemed a good deal puzzled in managing the papers, which contained his statement. The number of seamen, he said, he would limit to 26,000, including 4495 marines. The miserable state of our navy, at the commencement of the late war, justified the expediency of keeping a tolerable fleet in readiness in case of an emergency.—Gentlemen, therefore, he hoped, would not think him unreasonable, when he proposed the following number to be kept in pay. For the East-India service, two ships of 74 guns, two of 64, one of 50, and two frigates of 32 guns. For the Mediterranean, one ship of 50 guns, four frigates, and two sloops. Jamaica, one 50, one 44, two frigates, and two sloops; the same for the Leeward Islands. America, one 50, four frigates, two sloops, and two brigs. For home service, eight frigates, twenty sloops, and twenty-seven cutters. The guardships, three of 90 guns, seven of 74, and seven of 64.

Mr. Brett, wished to know whether the Hon. Admiral included the seamen expected next spring from India in the 26,000, and whether it was meant that the same number should be kept in pay in subsequent years?

Admiral Pigot replied, that seamen expected from India were not included; and that it was not improbable that some of the number now moved for, might be dispensed with the end of 1784. The same number of shipping might not, perhaps be necessary, either in India or the Mediterranean.

Mr. Hussey, did not wish to oppose Admiral Pigot's motion; he meant only to suggest, that he thought the equipment for home service very inadequate to the object of keeping our coasts clear of smugglers, by which lawful traders were so essentially injured. His reason was, that the ships to be employed were in general too small, by no means matches for the large vessels that are now enployed to carry on illicit traffic on our coasts. A late daring insult on our navy, committed on the Hampshire coast, had fully convinced him, that no ship under twenty-four guns could be of much service to the country.

Admiral Pigot answered, that large frigates were exceedingly improper for effecting the end which the Honorable Gentleman wished to promote, as none but ships of small burthen could keep so close in shore as to ensure the success of a chase.

Lord J. Cavendish gave notice, that he intended very soon to move the House for a Committee, to consider of ways and means for clearing the British coasts of such destructive vermin.—The bill was then ordered to be read, and agreed to without opposition.—Adjourned till to-morrow.

SAVANNAH, *(Georgia) November* 13.

With pleasure, we inform our readers, that the Indians, at the late treaty, held at Augusta, have freely, fully, and absolutely relinquished all claim or pretensions to lands late in their possession, this side of and as far as the Ocones.

Nov. 20. A detachment of 150 men from the thirty-seventh regiment, arrived lately from New-York at St. Augustine; it is imagined they are to garrison that place till the arrival of the Spaniards. The transport brig that brought them was cast away near the Metanzas, but no lives were lost.

A snow and a schooner from New-Providence, were lost in the storm the beginning of last month, to the southward of St. Augstine bar.

CHARLESTOWN, *December* 13.

Thursday the ship Patsey, Rutledge, arrived here from Philadelphia, with whom came the Hon. John Rutledge, Esq; of this city.

The Barbary, Capt. Tracey, consigned to Mr. Wilkinson, in eight weeks from London, is now coming up. She failed two days after the Charlestown Packet, belonging to Messieurs Scarborough and Cooke, which may be hourly looked for.

SALEM, *January* 29.

On Monday last the schooner Friendship, Capt. Palmer, arrived here from the Bite of Leoganne. after 32 days passage.

NORWICH, *January* 29.

Captain Azariah Hylliard who sailed from this place last August, we learn, met with a hurricane at sea some time in the month of September last, in which the vessel overset and every one on board perished, except the Mate, Mr. Joseph Pearce, who survived on the wreck till taken off; from whom this intelligence is received.

TRENTON, *February* 24.

A writer in the Connecticut Gazette, speaking of the manufactures of this country, says, "all the danger to a country lies in not having exports equal to imports, which will inevitably drain it of its cash, and throw the landed interest into the hands of foreigners. He that uses in his family one shilling per day more than he raises for market, will soon find himself growing poor, while he that sells one shilling worth per day (free of debt otherwise) will find himself enriched eighteen pounds five shillings at the year's end. Raw materials then, on which we can spend our labour, and the grosser manufactures, if I may so call ship-building, wherein we may have good wages, is the true road for a young country, until the inhabitants become too numerous for the demands of agriculture, then lesser manufactures become necessary for the support of the surplus labourers. But here we ought to remember, that we should not neglect our flax and our wool in our houshold manufactures, for though we may buy cloth for half the price, yet all that is manufactured in our families is so much gain. It is better to work for a penny per day, than play for nothing. In a word, working iron into anchors, ship-bolts and spikes, sawing your timber, and working it into vessels, raising hemp and manufacturing it into cordage and duck, raising provisions, wool and flax, and manufacturing them into a coarser kind, taking fish and oil, seems the language of Providence to America, especially to the New-England States at this period, while the very ashes of the wood we burn, converted into pot and pearl-ash, is a considerable branch of export."

NEW-YORK, *February* 3.

Notwithstanding what has been lately asserted, that unanimity subsists in the territory of Vermont, between the adherents to the York and Vermont interests, the contest of late is renewed, and with such bitterness as will in all probability put an end to the quietude they have hitherto enjoyed; the government of Vermont having raised and embodied a number of troops, under the command of Gen. Wait, whose present rendezvous is said to be at Brattleborough, to oppose whom, a body of troops is said to be collected and collecting at Guilford, with such appearances of determination as soon to render a serious action inevitable—reports say that several shots have been exchanged between them by skirmishing parties whereby one or two have been wounded.

PHILADELPHIA, *Feb.* 26.

A Dublin paper of the 10th of October last, has the following article: "The liberty of navigating the several seas in the East-Indies contiguous to the Dutch settlements, lately extorted from the States-General of the United Provinces, by Great-Britain and France, will be of singular advantage to the trading companies of both these nations, as it will open a commercial communication with many places, from which the richest produce of the Indies is obtained. The commercial politics of England and France seem to favour of a liberality hitherto unknown in great rival nations, and the consequences will probably turn out very much to their mutual advantages, particularly if the scheme we are told is in agitation between them, for opening all the ports of the Chinese and Japanese empires should have the desired success. The scheme is, to send a formal embassy from France and England to Pekin and Japan, for the purpose of demanding a free and unlimited trade and communication for the subjects of their respective kingdoms, on the terms of the fairest reciprocity; but should Oriental Monarch decline so liberal a proposal, a war shall be immediately declared against them by Great-Britain and France, whose united fleets will attack their richest sea port towns, and by a descent of 20,000 European troops, carry the flame of war into the heart of China, or make an entire conquest of Japan and its dependencies."

State of the vessels in Old Kill Road, Thursday February 19, 1784.

The Dutch ship from Amsterdam gone out, but in sight.—Sloop Despatch, gone out, but in sight; mate and one man only on board.—Schooner Cox, late Mason, from Barbadoes, drove out, with only one man on board; out of sight.—Snow Industry, Honeywell, still on shore, but expected to get off to-morrow morning.—Brig Alexander got off.—Schooner Gerard, Burrows, still in the ice.—French brig from Ostend, gone out but in sight.—Ship Minerva, Cole, safe at anchor to the southward of the Hen and Chickens.—Snow industry, off.

From the [London] GENERAL EVENING POST.

To the EDITOR of the GENERAL EVENING POST.

November 4, 1783.

FROM the various accounts which have so much engaged the attention of the French, relative to the air-balloons, I was induced to carry that experiment into practice, and had the satisfaction to find my idea prove successful:—I made one of nine feet in circumference, and having prepared it for trial on Saturday last, about half past one o'clock, I tried it by means of a string to a post in Falkner's-Square, which when cut, the ascent of the air-balloon immediately followed, from the same principle as a cork or any other light body rises in water, when the pressure is removed. The balloon being filled with inflammable air, is rendered lighter than common air, by the density of which it is buoyed up into the atmosphere; in consequence of my experiment, I received a copy of the underwritten letter, which you will please to insert in your paper, and you will much oblige,

Sir, your humble servant,

JAMES GENNITTIE.

Leominster, Nov. 2, 1783.

THE inhabitants of this town were this afternoon much alarmed by the appearance of a large body of a globular form floating in the air: The fears and consternation that seized the minds of the gaping spectators upon this extraordinary occasion, are beyond conception; however they were soon after relieved from the dreadful apprehensions they had formed, by the machine falling about two miles from this place, and, upon examination, was found affixed to it an account of the time and place of

being set afloat in the air. I judge you will be anxious to know the event of your ingenuity, and have taken this opportunity of transmitting the particulars to you. I am, Sir, &c. &c.

BENJAMIN FELLOWS.

N. B. Leominster is 136 miles N. N. W. from London.

BALTIMORE, *March* 2.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Philadelphia, to another in this town, dated the 27th ult.

"Letters from England, as late as the 20th of December, advise, that there had been a total change in the British Ministry; by which event Mr. William Pitt, and a number of the Grenville family were in Administration."

Lately died in England Dr. BENJAMIN KENNICOTT, author of the late laboured edition of the Hebrew bible.

ALEXANDRIA, *March* 11.

We are informed, that the Washington Packet, Capt. Barney, from France, arrived at Annapolis on Friday Evening last; that a number of other Vessels had arrived there also from different Parts.

The Schooner La Madame Mazange, Capt. Sweet, from this Port, is arrived at Barbadoes, but not permitted to enter, after a Passage of 20 Days, during which he had continual Gales of Wind.

The Sloop Pluto, Capt. Buntin, also from this Port, wh ch was thought to have been lost, is arrived at St. Vincent's.

Congress have been pleased to elect the Rev. Mr. DANIEL JONES their Chaplain.

The Post from the Northward, in crossing Potomack last Week on the Ice, near George-Town, with his Horse, broke in; but fortunately saved himself and Horse.

Extracts from the JOURNAL *of the* UNITED STATES, *in* CONGRESS *assembled.*

January 3. A letter of the 17th of December last, from Mr. F. Dana, was read, informing Congress of his arrival at Boston, after a passage of 95 days, from Petersburgh; and desiring to know whether it is the expectation of Congress, that he should come on to the place of their sessions, and without loss of time to render a more particular account of his late mission. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the President inform Mr. Dana, it is the desire of Congress to receive his communication, relative to his mission to the Court of Russia, and to the disposition of that Court towards the United States, as soon as the circumstances of his affairs, and the season shall admit of his attending Congress.

On the report of a Committee to whom was referred a letter from the Commander in Chief, of the 28th of August, containing a proposal from the Secretary of the Polish Order of Knights of Divine Providence, that Congress should nominate a number of suitable persons to be created Knights of the said Order.

Resolved, That the late Commander in Chief, be requested to inform the Chevalier Jean de Heintz, Secretary of the Order of Divine Providence, that Congress are sensible of the attention of that Order, in proposing to them to nominate a number of suitable persons to be created Knights of the Order of Divine Providence; but that Congress cannot, consistently with the principles of the confederation, accept of their obliging proposal.

January 30. On the report of a Committee consisting of Mr. Monroe, Mr. Partridge and Mr. Williamson, to whom was referred a letter of the 23d of December, 1783, from Daniel Parker, stating that a ship called "The Empress of China," will shortly sail from New-York, for Canton in China, under the command of Captain John Green, and requesting sea letters for said Green.

Resolved, That sea letters be granted for said Captain John Green, in the form following:

Most Serene, Serene, Most Puissant, Puissant, High, Illustrious, Noble, Honorable, Venerable, Wise and Prudent Emperors, Kings, Republics, Princes, Dukes, Earls, Barons, Lords, Burgomasters, Councellors, as also Judges, Officers, Justiciaries, and Regents of all the good cities and places, whether ecclesiastical or secular, who shall see these patents or hear them read:

We the United States in Congress assembled, make known, that John Green, Captain of the ship called the Empress of China, is a citizen of the United States of America, and that the ship which he commands belongs to citizens of the said United States, and as we wish to see the said John Green prosper in his lawful affairs, our prayer is to all the before mentioned, and to each of them separately, where the said John Green shall arrive with his vessel and cargo, that they may please to receive him with goodness, and treat him in a becoming manner, permitting him upon the usual tolls and expences in passing and repassing, to pass, navigate and frequent the ports, passes and territories, to the end to transact his business where and in what manner he shall judge proper, whereof we shall be willingly indebted.

In testimony whereof, &c. &c.

February 6. On the report of a Committee, consisting of Mr. Williamson, Mr. Read, and Mr. Hand, to whom was recommitted a report on a letter of the 22d of January, from Brigadier-General Armand, and a letter from the Honorable the Minister of France.

Resolved, That the commissions of Major by brevet, be issued to Captain de Bert, Le Brun and M. G. Houdin; and the commissions of Captain by brevet, be issued to Lieutenants Verdier, Fontivieux, Le Roy and Marcellin.

On the report of a Committee consisting of Mr. Hand, Mr. Spright, and Mr Tilton, to whom was referred a letter from Maior F. J. S. de Brahm.

Resolved, That a brevet commission of Lieutenant-Colonel, be issued to Major de Brahm, of the late corps of engineers, and that he be informed, that his further services are dispensed with.

ANECDOTE.

A SPANISH Prince, possessed of humanity, and strictly attached to the principles of justice, resolved to visit the prisoners on board the galleys, in order to enquire into the manner of their treatment and nature of their offences. He accordingly repaired to one of these vessels and addressing the first convict he met, asked him, "what was the cause of his confinement?" The prisoner replied, that he was perfectly innocent, and that the witnesses who swore to the transaction had been guilty of perjury. Parting from him, the Prince accosted a second in the same manner, who answered, that the judge was prejudiced against him, and decided upon his case by evidence that did not amount to a proof of his crime. The young advocate for justice went to a third prisoner, who declared that he was also free from guilt, and sent there by his relations, in order that they might enjoy estates, to the possession of which he was justly entitled. At length the Prince came to a fourth, whom he addressed in a similar stile, and received this reply, "I am confined here for my repeated and enormous offences; and had it not been for the mercy of the law and my judges, I should have been executed." The sincerity of this reply, opposed to the fallacy of those he had before received, struck the royal inquisitor so forcibly, that he immediately called out to the superintendent of the galley—"Discharge this rascal! turn him out, or he will corrupt the morals of all these honest gentlemen!"—The culprit consequently obtained his liberty, and exhibited a proof, that truth will recommend even the guilty to lenity, while falshood will ever be despised, occasion its own detection, and ensure its own punishment.

Tappahannock, Feb. 1, 1784.

THE UNDERWRITERS of Lloyd's Coffee-House, in London, having appointed me their Agent in the State of Virginia—I give notice to all whom it may concern, That they may know where to apply for delivering up any vessels, cargoes, or goods, which may be damaged, and require to be sold, or repaired, on the said Underwriters account.

ARCHIBALD M'CALL.

N. B. For dispatch, and for the convenience of the trade of Alexandria and that neighbourhood, I shall, on notice, appoint Mr. WILLIAM HUNTER, jun. to act in my absence.

TO BE SOLD,

At public Sale, in Dumfries, on Monday the 5th Day of April next, being Prince William Court-Day,

A TRACT of LAND, on Occoquan River, containing about 150 acres, with a good Merchant Mill thereon, known by the name of Bland's Mill, now grinding and in good order, with two water-wheels and two pair of stones, bolters, &c. all in very good order for manufacturing; it is fourteen miles from Dumfries and about twenty-five from Alexandria, and on a never failing stream.—Twelve months credit will be given for one half of the purchase-money.

JOHNSTON SMITH.

Feb. 24, 1784.

I HAVE just arrived in the Ship Thomison, from London, a very large cargo of Goods, (which will be sold, by the package or piece, at my stores in Tappahannock and Fredericksburg) among which are about 20 chariots, post-chaises, phaetons, French bur and Cologne millstones, a large assortment of music and music-books, a variety of mahogany furniture, glasses, a great variety of pickles, blank books, silks, French grammars, cordage, and anchors of all sizes.

ARCHIBALD M'CALL.

THE Ship THOMISON will take in TOBACCO for LONDON, at £. 8 Sterling per Ton, to be delivered alongside.—It is expected she will sail among the first Ships.—Apply to

A. M'CALL.

Tappahannock, Feb. 1, 1784.

TO BE SOLD,

And a reasonable Time given for Payment,

SIX *Hundred and Forty Acres of* LAND, *lying in Hampshire County, Virginia, situate on Capecapon-River, which runs through it, and abounds with fine trout, &c. and on the premises are all kinds of game—two hundred acres of which are well calculated for meadow, about one hundred cleared and under good fence, a great part of it fresh and in good order for corn, hemp, or tobacco; there are on the premises, a tolerable dwelling-house, a large and commodious new barn, and other out-houses, a good bearing orchard of excellent fruit; it is well calculated for stock, as well on account of the quantity of meadow that is made, as its situation for an excellent range equally good on both sides of the said river, and very extensive; the land is generally very level, well timbered and watered with divers springs, and on the great road leading from Alexandria, Dumfries, and Fredericksburg, to Pittsburg and the Western Settlements, and within* 20 *miles of the borough of Winchester, which is thought to be the most healthy situation, and the best for trade of any inland town on the Continent.——Also to be sold, at public vendue, on the first Tuesday in May next, in the borough aforesaid, a large* STONE HOUSE, *situate on the main street, well calculated for public or private business, and was formerly a Tavern, known by the name of the Red Cooper's Tavern; it has an arched cellar under the whole, a good kitchen and smoke-house, two stables and other out-houses, with an excellent draw-well.——Likewise will be sold at the same time another* DWELLING-HOUSE, *of about* 50 *feet front, adjoining the Stone House, suitable for a tavern or store.——The purchaser will be indulged to pay £.* 250 *of the purchase-money at £.* 50 *per annum; and the houses will rent from* 80 *to £.* 100 *per year. For particulars, apply to the Subscriber in Winchester.*

PATRICK MURRAY.

March 11, 1784.

Chatham, Feb. 26, 1784.

IN January last I advertised sundry Financier's Notes, payable in six months from the 28th of October last, to *Edward Carrington*, or bearer, of the following numbers and denominations:

No.	Dollars.	No.	Dollars.	No.	Dollars.
38	50	11	50	2	50
39	100	12	100	3	100
40	20	4	20	7	20
41	50	5	50	8	50
42	100	6	100	9	100
10	20	1	20		

Which I either lost in the city of Richmond, or had taken out of my pocket on the 22d of December last.——I have it now in proof, that they have lately been negociated in the State of Maryland by two men, who passed by the names of John Thomas, and Wyatt Davis, and said they came from Virginia: They were seen by two Gentlemen in company with Mr. Philip Melton, of Maryland, of whom they purchased a horse, at the extravagant price of 170 dollars, and paid for him with three of the abovementioned notes; also another of one Roberts, a tavern-keeper, on the Frederick-Town road.——I hereby offer a Reward of FIFTY DOLLARS to any person who will deliver them to JAMES HUNTER, Esq; of Fredericksburg, Col. EDWARD CARRINGTON in Richmond, or to the Subscriber, or in proportion for a part of them.——I shall also consider it as an act of Friendship if any person, acquainted with the above named John Thomas and Wyatt Davis, will inform me where they live.

WILLIAM FITZHUGH.

Alexandria, Feb. 24, 1784.

WAS left in my care on the 28th of October last, by a person unknown, a dark bay HORSE, *about* 15 *hands high, six years old, has no perceivable brand, was in bad order, and had a sore back.—The owner is desired to come, prove property, pay charges, and take him away, otherwise he will be sold in four weeks from this date, to pay expences.*

SAMUEL COLLARD.

Alexandria, March 2, 1784.

To the Inhabitants of Fairfax, Loudon, Shenandoah, Fauquier, Berkley, and Frederick Counties.

THE Subscribers intend to keep several Boats running from the different Landings on this River, in order to supply the abovementioned Counties, in the most punctual Manner with FISH, either SHAD or HERRINGS, during the Season, at the current Prices of Alexandria, which they will deliver at the Wharves of Mr. Thomas Kirkpatrick, Capt. John Harper, or Mr. Thomas Fleming.—They will take in Payment, Wheat, Flour, Butter, Bacon, or Tobacco, at the current Prices of this Town.

ALEXANDER CHISHOLM, and Co.

A Variety of Blank Books, Sealing-Wax, best Irish Wafers, British Inkpowder, Writing Paper, &c. to be Sold at the Printing-Office.

POETRY.

CHARACTER of VOLTAIRE.

[*From Mr.* HAYLEY's *Eſſay on Hiſtory.*]

THO' pontiffs execrate, and kings betray,
Let not this fate your generous warmth allay,
Ye kindred worthies! who ſtill dare to wield
Reaſon's keen ſword, and toleration's ſhield,
In climes where perſecution's iron mace
Is rais'd to maſſacre the human race!
The heart of Nature will your virtue feel,
And her immortal voice reward your zeal:
Firſt in her praiſe her fearleſs champions live,
Crown'd with the nobleſt palms that earth can give.
Firm in this band, who to her aid advance,
And high amid th' hiſtoric ſons of France,
Delighted nature ſaw, with partial care,
The lively vigour of the gay VOLTAIRE;
And fondly gave him, with ANACREON's *fire,*
To throw the hand of age acroſs the lyre:
But mute that vary'd voice, which pleas'd ſo long!
Th' hiſtorian's tale is cloſ'd, the poet's ſong!
Within the narrow tomb behold him lie,
Who filled ſo large a ſpace in learning's eye!
Thou mind unwearied! thy long toils are o'er;
Cenſure and praiſe can touch thy ear no more:
Still let me breathe with juſt regret thy name,
Lament thy foibles and thy powers proclaim!
On the wide ſea of letters 'twas thy boaſt
To croud each ſail, and touch at ev'ry coaſt:
From that rich deep how often haſt thou brought
The pure and precious pearls of ſplendid thought:
How didſt thou triumph on that ſubject-tide,
Till vanity's wild guſt, and ſtormy pride,
Drove thy ſtrong bark, in evil hour, to ſplit
Upon the fatal rock of impious wit!
But be thy failings covered by thy tomb!
And guardian laurels o'er thy aſhes bloom!
From the long annals of the world thy art,
With chemic proceſs, drew the richer part;
To hiſt'ry gave a philoſophic air,
And made the intereſt of mankind her care;
Pleas'd her grave brow with garlands to adorn,
And from the roſe of knowledge ſtript the thorn.
Thy lively eloquence, in proſe, in verſe,
Still keenly bright, and elegantly terſe,
Flames with bold ſpirit; yet is idly raſh:
Thy promis'd light is oft a dazzling flaſh;
Thy wiſdom verges to ſarcaſtic ſport,
Satire thy joy! and ridicule thy ſort!
But the gay genius of the Gallic ſoil,
Shrinking from ſolemn taſks of ſerious toil,
Thro' every ſcene his playful air maintains,
And in the light memoir unrival'd reigns.

ANECDOTE.

A WOMAN of Japan was left a widow, with three ſons, and with no other wealth than what could be procured by her and their labour. They were exceedingly poor, work was not to be had, and the ſons ſaw their mother ready to periſh for want; the love of their mother and filial piety were ſtrong in them, and finding no direct mode of relieving their mother, they came to a deſperate reſolution. An edict had been then lately publiſhed, promiſing a large recompence for whoever took, and brought a thief to juſtice; on which the three brothers determined to draw lots, which of them ſhould perſonate a thief, and be conducted for the reward, by the other two, to the magiſtrate. The lot fell upon the youngeſt; he was brought before the judge, confeſſed a fact of which he was not guilty, and his brothers received the money. The concern, however, viſible in their countenances, and the tears that forced themſelves into their eyes, ſtruck the magiſtrate, who ordered a ſervant to follow and watch them. Accordingly he heard them confeſs with ſobs to their mother, the manner in which they had procured the money which they put into her lap; while ſhe, in deſpair, abſolutely refuſed to touch the price of her dear ſon's blood. This being told the judge, he ſent for the priſoner, and again interrogated him concerning the ſuppoſed robbery, but he reſolutely continued to affirm himſelf guilty.—Struck with the filial affection and fortitude of the youth, the magiſtrate laid the caſe before his ſovereign, who ſent for the three brothers, and their mother, loaded them with favours, and gave an annuity of five hundred crowns to the eldeſt, and fifteen hundred to the youngeſt.

Alexandria, March 4, 1784.

TO BE SOLD,
An elegant

CHARIOT,

With Harneſs.
Inquire at the Printing-Office.

Alexandria, March 4, 1784.

THE Subſcriber has for Sale, in this Town, ſundry LOTS, or Parcels of GROUND, on ſeveral Streets, and well ſituated.

WILLIAM RAMSAY.

JAMES ADAM,

HAS for ſale coarſe and fine Ship Bread, of a good quality, and fine Bread in ſmall cags, for the Weſt-India market, with which he can ſupply any Maſters of veſſels and others with large or ſmall quantities, on reaſonable terms for ready Money.—He has alſo for ſale, old Jamaica Spirits of the firſt quality, either by the gallon or quarter caſk; imported Grindſtones, fit for plantation uſe; Liverpool and Allum Salt.—He will allow a generous price to any Millers or others for good middling Flour.—He has three Rooms in the Public Warehouſe, on the County-Wharf, to let, either by the Month or Year.

Alexandria, March 3.

TWENTY DOLLARS REWARD.

STOLEN out of the Subſcriber's ſhop, on Sunday evening laſt, the following articles, viz. A ſuperfine olive-coloured cloth COAT, with plated buttons, faced with the ſame, and the edges not trimmed; ſeven yards of Iriſh Linen, eight yards of Sheeting ditto, two dozen and an half of large plain waſhed Buttons.—Whoever apprehends the thief, ſo that I get the articles again and he be convicted thereof, ſhall receive the above Reward; or, for the Coat and Linen, Ten Dollars, and in proportion for any part thereof.

JOHN LONGDEN.

Alexandria, March 3, 1784.

Alexandria, February 26, 1784.

THE Public is hereby informed, that a GRAMMAR-SCHOOL *has been lately opened in this Place, by the Rev.* WILLIAM M'WHIR, *a Gentleman well qualified to teach the Latin and Greek Languages, together with the ſeveral other Branches of Literature, uſually included in a claſſic Education.—The Subſcribers having engaged him in this Undertaking, and finding his Abilities and Succeſs fully anſwerable to the good Character, by which he was introduced to them, they cannot but think the School, under his Care, an Object worthy of more public Notice and Encouragement; and accordingly with Pleaſure and Confidence, ſolicit the Patronage of the Friends of Learning in general, and eſpecially of thoſe in this Town and the neighbouring Country, who have Children to educate, and who, it is hoped, will feel themſelves particularly intereſted in its Eſtabliſhment and Succeſs. In order to give Stability to the Inſtitution, and to add to its Credit and Uſefulneſs, the Government of it will be ſhortly veſted in a Board of Truſtees, or Viſitors, conſtituted on the moſt liberal Principles; under whoſe Direction, capable Teachers, when needed, may be employed, frequent Examinations and Exhibitions held, and ſuch other Meaſures purſued, as may appear to them beſt adapted to excite a laudable Emulation among the Youth, and to favour their Progreſs in their Studies.*

The French Language is alſo taught here by Monſ. DELARUE, *whoſe Qualifications, as a Teacher, and the Reputation which he has hitherto ſuſtained in that Capacity, juſtly entitle him to be employed by thoſe who wiſh to obtain an accurate Acquaintance with a Language, that is not only to be conſidered as a very ornamental Part of a polite Education, but is daily becoming a more important Accompliſhment of the Man of Buſineſs, eſpecially in the mercantile Line.*

An Engliſh Maſter is at preſent much wanted in this Town, and a Perſon in that Character, coming well recommended, both for his Abilities and Morals, will meet with proper Encouragement.—If, beſides teaching Reading, Writing and Arithmetic, he can alſo undertake to inſtruct thoſe who deſire it, in the Engliſh Grammar, Book-Keeping, Navigation and Surveying, he will be the more acceptable to many of his Employers, and find it conducive to his own Intereſt.—When a Perſon, thus qualified, can be procured and eſtabliſhed here, the Schools will then be united (if the Meaſures ſhould prove agreeable to thoſe concerned in them) under the ſame Government, and ſuch Arrangements made with reſpect to the Hours of Study, that Scholars may have the Opportunity of purſuing, at the ſame Time, different Branches of Learning, under the Inſtructions of the ſeveral Teachers, whom it may be thought proper for them to attend. Such a Regulation, it is conceived, will be attended with ſome important Advantages, particularly to the induſtrious Youth, who are deſirous of making the moſt profitable Improvement of their Time, and of acquiring an Education on as extended a Scale as poſſible.

Good Accommodations may be procured for Scholars coming from a Diſtance; and the Expence of Boarding and Tuition, will be made as moderate as the Circumſtances of the Times and the Place will allow.

ROBERT M'CREA,
JOSIAH WATSON,
JESSE TAYLOR.

☞ LAMPBLACK, to be ſold at the Printing-Office.

TO BE SOLD,

A Valuable PLANTATION, *in the County of Loudon, whereon the late* ANDREW ADAM *lived, containing about* 600 *acres, ſituated between Gooſe-Creek and Leeſburg, about three miles from the latter, and convenient to four merchant mills; and has on it a very good ſtream, on which was formerly a merchant mill, but ſuffered to go down for want of repair.——There are cleared and in graſs about* 70 *acres of very good meadow, which for ſometime paſt has been neglected, but may eaſily be put in good order; about two thirds of the place is cleared, and in good order for wheat or other ſmall grain; alſo* 400 *very fine bearing fruit-trees, equal to any in the State, either for keeping or cyder, twenty or thirty hogſheads of which may be made yearly, as there is a good cyder mill, and the orchard ſeldom fails bearing; there is a good framed barn on the premiſes, and no other improvements of conſequence, ſo the purchaſer may for them form his own plan; the ſituation is pleaſant and healthy, and has a ſpring of very fine water thereon.—One third of the purchaſe-money will be expected on confirming the bargain, and a reaſonable time allowed for the other two thirds, on giving bond with ſecurity, and paying intereſt regularly.—The premiſes may be viewed by applying to Mr.* FRANCIS ELGIN, *at preſent on the place; and for further particulars, inquire of the the Subſcriber, living near Alexandria.*

ROBERT ADAM.

Alexandria, Feb. 24, 1784.

TO BE SOLD,

At Public Vendue, at Shooter's-Hill, in the Neighbourhood of Alexandria,

ALL the perſonal Effects belonging to the Eſtate of JOHN MILLS, *Eſq; deceaſed, conſiſting of Negroes, Stock, very valuable and elegant Houſhold Furniture, Books, Wearing-Apparel, and ſundry farming Utenſils, &c. &c.——The Stock, conſiſting of Horſes, Cattle, and Sheep, to be ſold on Saturday the 28th Inſt.——The Negroes, and all the Furniture and moveable Effects, on Friday the 19th of March next.——The Sale will begin on each of thoſe Days at 10 o'Clock A. M. and continue reſpectively until all are ſold.——Six Months Credit will be given for all Sums above Five Pounds, on giving Bond with good Security to bear Intereſt from the Day of the Sale, if not paid at the Time the Money ſhall become due.*

All Creditors of the late JOHN MILLS, *Eſq; are requeſted, as ſpeedily as poſſible, to bring in their Claims duly authenticated to the Subſcribers, in order that proper Meaſures may be taken to diſcharge them; and all Perſons indebted to his Eſtate are earneſtly required to make immediate Payment, as the Circumſtances of the Eſtate will not poſſibly admit of any Indulgence being given.*

The Subſcribers will alſo Let, for One Year, the Manſion-Houſe of the late JOHN MILLS, *Eſq; with about Twenty Acres of improved Land adjoining, ſo well known for its beautiful Situation, and the abſolute Perfection of the Plan, in which Elegance and Conveniency are ſo happily united.——Any genteel Family, deſirous of living in this Part of the Country, cannot be more agreeably accommodated than in a Reſidence at Shooter's-Hill.*

ROBERT T. HOOE,
CHARLES SIMMS,
WILLIAM BROWN, } *Adminiſtrators.*

Alexandria, February 18, 1784.

TWO Tracts of LAND, lying in Hampſhire County, Virginia, on the head branches of Gibbon's-Run, ten miles below Romney Court-Houſe, thirty-ſix miles from Wincheſter, and adjoining a tract of land belonging to Dr. Craik, on the main road to the above mentioned Court-Houſe;—they are both well wooded, and have excellent ſprings of water thereon, and a large quantity of meadow may be made on both Tracts;—one of them contains, by patent, 403 acres, the other 275.—They will be ſold either ſeparate or together, as may beſt ſuit the purchaſer.—An indiſputable title will be given to the purchaſer, and the terms made known, by applying to ELIAS POSTON, County Lieutenant of Hampſhire, or the Subſcriber in Alexandria.

ALEXANDER CHISHOLM.

Alexandria, Feb. 27.

TO BE SOLD,

A Valuable NEGRO WENCH, *about* 18 *years of Age, has had one child, is very ſtout and hearty, and fit for houſe or plantation work.——Corn, wheat, flour, tobacco or caſh, will be received in payment, and credit given till the firſt of November next.——Inquire of*

ROBERT ADAM.

Alexandria, Feb. 24, 1784.

ALEXANDRIA: Printed by GEORGE RICHARDS, and COMPANY, at the Corner of *Fairfax* and *Princeſs* Streets—by whom *Advertiſements, &c.* are thankfully received for this Paper,—and where Printing is performed with Care and Expedition.